

AMENDMENTS TO THE DRAWINGS

Two sheets drawings, where the arrows have been elongated to more particularly point out the invention;

Three sheets drawings where elements 16 and 17 are labeled in Figures 3 and 4; and

Elements 110 and 111 are labeled in Figure 5.

Attachment: 5 Replacement Sheets

REMARKS

Dealing with preliminary matters first, Applicants note that the Examiner has failed to acknowledge the claim to priority and receipt of the priority document in this National Stage application from the International Bureau. It is respectfully requested that the Examiner acknowledge receipt of the same.

The Examiner has objected to the drawings. It is believed that the drawings objections have been overcome by the replacement sheets wherein reference numerals 16 and 17 have been added in Figures 3 and 4 and the arrow associated with reference numeral 16 has been extended in Figures 1 and 2. Applicants have also added reference numerals 3 in Figure 5 to show the two main conduits. The features of claim 9 are thus all shown in this figure. With respect to the objection related to the “two portions” of the mixing controlling shutter recited in claim 13, reference numerals 110 and 111 and an arrow to reference numeral 11 have been added in Figure 5. Thus, it is submitted that the objections to the drawings have been overcome.

Claims 1, 2 and 8-13 are objected to for various informalities. Applicants have amended these claims with the Examiner’s comments in mind. Thus, it is submitted that this objection has been overcome.

Claims 1-13 are all the claims pending in the application. Of these claims, claim 12 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112 as being indefinite. Further, claims 1-3, 8, 10 and 11 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Takahashi (U.S. Patent No. 4,895,000). Further, claim 1 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Kawai, et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,138,749). Claims 9 and 13 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kawai, et al. in view of Kown, et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,036,594). Applicants thank the Examiner for having indicated that claims 4-7 and 12 would be allowable if rewritten

in independent form. For the following reasons, Applicants respectfully traverse the Examiner's rejections.

Claim 1 has been amended to better clarify the structure and arrangement of the Coanda effect distributor means and the temperature changing means, also clarifying the relationship between them which enables air at different temperature to be obtained, depending upon which outlet conduit is selected. All the amendments to the claims should be self-explanatory. It is submitted that the amendments to the claims overcome all the §§ 112, 102 and 103 rejections.

The cited prior references all use door members to deflect air flow, which causes a loss of energy in the air flow itself. On the contrary, in the invention as now defined in amended claim 1, the air flow becomes attached to one lateral wall or the other simply by the Coanda effect. The claim clarifies that the Coanda effect distributing means comprise a flow perturbing member (16) having at least one active portion (18) which can either be retracted within an opening in the conduit lateral wall or protrude from this opening. For example, with reference to Figure 2, portion 18 of the perturbing member 16 is retracted within opening 20, so that "the air flowing through the main conduit (3) remains adherent to said lateral wall (3a) by the Coanda effect, thus flowing into a first outlet conduit (4) having a lateral wall arranged as an extension of said lateral wall (3a) of the main conduit." When the portion 18 protrudes from opening 20 (*See*, Figure 1), "the air flow is caused to detach from said lateral wall (3a) and to be attracted, again by the Coanda effect, by an opposite wall of a second outlet conduit (5), thus flowing into said second outlet conduit (5)." Thus control on the deviation of the air flow into a selected outlet conduit can be obtained with no energy loss in the air flow. Moreover, claim 1 now explicitly mentions the presence of the by-pass conduit arranged in parallel to the conduit portion where the heat radiating mass is located, and further indicates that the perturbing member 16 is operatively

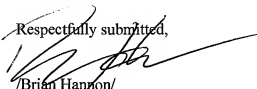
connected to the throttling member controlling the flow through the bypass conduit, thus providing the result of changing the air temperature depending upon which outlet is selected.

Since the prior references do not disclose or suggest the structure and arrangement recited in amended claim 1, this claim is believed to be clearly allowable. Claims 2 and 3 have been cancelled without prejudice, since their subject-matter has been substantially incorporated into amended claim 1. Claims 4-12 are all dependent, either directly or indirectly, from claim 1 and therefore are also allowable for the same reasons set forth above. Claim 13 has been added corresponding to claim 4 as filed, but rewritten in independent form. This claim was indicated as being allowable by the Examiner.

In view of the above, reconsideration and allowance of this application are now believed to be in order, and such actions are hereby solicited. If any points remain in issue which the Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,



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